

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by replacement paragraph(s) as follows.

[0025.5] FIG. 18 is a pictorial view of a light panel according a further embodiment of the invention, showing a mask with alphanumeric characters.

[0027] The edging strip **1020** is arranged to overlap the diffuser sheet **1030** and the backing sheet **1010** by a distance 'd', which in a non-limiting example may be 0.375 inches, and an inner surface **1070** of edging strip **1020** is angled downwards by an angle 'a'. Angle 'a' is preferably in the range 10-15°, preferably substantially 12°, i.e. angle 'b' would be substantially 78°, such that light from point light sources **1040** is reflected from mirrored surface **1060** of back sheet **1010** towards diffuser sheet **1030**. As the point light sources **1040** are arranged to emit light normal to the inner surface **1070**, the angle of incidence of the light with respect to the mirrored surface **1060** of the backing sheet **1010** is also equal to the angle 'a'. The diffuser sheet **1030** may be covered by a further sheet acting as a mask (~~not shown~~ **1830** in FIG. 18), which does not permit the passage of light except through selective openings **1850**, such as cut out numerals and/or letters, for example to display a house number or other message. In an alternative embodiment, the light panel may be used as a picture frame and the mask may be the mat used in framing the picture. This results in an appealing backlighting effect.